

19
MARCH 1978

Out of Reach



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"O U T O F R E A C H"

COMMUNITY MAGAZINE

Issue No.19

MARCH 1978.

EDITORIAL

One of my monthly problems is whether to use this space as an introduction to the magazine or for my own pontification on the 'bees' I readily get in 'my bonnet'. This month I am going to stick my neck out and say how lucky I think we are to have only a 12p in the pound increase in the rates (subject to confirmation by the full council on February 28th). Many of you will know that a number of people in Cambridgeshire have been campaigning against cuts in the education service and particularly in the number of teachers. Those of us involved have been delighted to hear that, despite this minimal rate increase, the education budget has been so arranged that there will be no teacher redundancy in Cambridgeshire during the following year. I am sure that other readers will similarly welcome the news and I applaud the work of some members of the Education Committee towards this end. It is unfortunate that other expenditure, such as the capitation allowance has to be severely restricted, but this is something which parents at least might be expected to help out with, and might indeed be pleased to do. However much we complain at the tax and rate levies, I think we do very well from our welfare state.

(I shall be delighted if the above stimulates some letters to the magazine).

Happy St. David's Day.

J.J.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Sam Mitchell whose miniature poodle won a first and a second place at Crufts Dog Show this year.

Welcome to the Fowles family who have recently moved into Snib End.

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Mr. Warren argues that the Roman invasions were not altogether a bad thing for the Anglelanders. Chiefs would have suffered but slaves would have been no worse off and the Romans did bring with them education in Latin writings and the Christian Religion.

In 350 A.D. the Romans were recalled, but, of course, much Roman blood and influence remained. The country was now ruled by overlords of 'kings' in small kingdoms. The church at Anglesea was the centre of Christianity and other churches were created from there.

Between 1640 and 1660 Cam-place became Cambridge; a bridge was built across the river at Magdalene Street. Thus documents referring to Cambridge and dated before this time are suspect. e.g. The Rogation Day Charter was dated 1201 but technical investigation suggests a date of nearer 1861. The name 'Rogation' is after Rogartus who lived in the 4th century and, together with his brother, became a missionary and martyr. Mr. Warren has written to the Pope asking him to create Rogartus a Saint to represent Reach and the Christians of Angleland. Rogation Day ceremonies were held at Reach, according to the Charter until 1404 when the church here was knocked down by the order of the Bishop of Ely. The Bishop of Reach and his assistants were sent to Anglesea Abbey at Lode, and valuable possessions were removed, e.g. the coronation stone went to Reach Place, London (renamed Ely Place) and the 579 Bible is now in Corpus Christi College.

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Scholars from Reach also went to find a second seat of learning at Oxford.

In conclusion then, the historical position of Reach, in Mr. Warren's view is :-

- a) an important centre of old Angleland
- b) the crucial invasion point
- c) the centrepont of Christian teaching and scholarship.

He also believes that Reach (including land around Exning and Newmarket) has a good case for independence, although personally he does not wish to retain this once the claim has been upheld by the Ministry of the Environment. He makes no claim to Kingship but has asked for recognition as the successor to Count Allen of Reach (murdered in Ely 1349).

During question time Mr. Warren suggested that the country would benefit from the reinstatement of the Queen as supreme and active ruler of the U.K. and that the digging of a canal from Ely to London would alleviate the erosion of the East Coast.

From the Vicar:

Good Friday

After much consultation it has been decided that Anglicans in our Deanery of Fordham might derive help from observing at least part of Good Friday together. To this end, therefore, there will be a service of one hour's devotion, probably in the form of hymns and meditations from 2.00 - 3.00 p.m. in Burwell Church on that day.

Earlier in the day at 10.00 a.m. at Swaffham Prior, we shall be having Matins, followed by the first part of the Communion service, and a sermon, with Evensong at 5.00 p.m.

XX

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From the Vicar contd.....

We felt it might be a good thing, and appreciated by both villages, if we tried to mount an Exhibition of Old Reach in the church on Rogation Sunday, April 30th, and Rogation Monday, the day of the Fair, May 1st. Major Jones, of Gallions, Reach, (Tel 741191) has kindly undertaken the general oversight of this complicated, but we hope interesting and worthwhile enterprise, and any articles in your possession, of whatever kind, which you are willing to loan for these two days, and which you think might throw light on Reach's history, you are asked to place at his disposal. We also hope the exhibition will add a new element of interest to the ancient Fair.

I have received an appeal from the Chairman of the Ely Diocesan Board of Social Responsibility, the Archdeacon of Wisbech, for help for those who suffered so much personal loss through the recent floods. The appeal is supported by the Lord Lieutenant of the County and the Mayor of Wisbech, together with the Clergy of Wisbech, Cyril Leighton, and my predecessor, Robin Ellis. If you feel you can help in any way, would you please send your contributions to the Archdeacon at:

You will be aware that the Government has offered massive assistance to those who have been involved; but only $\frac{3}{4}$ of the loss will be covered in this way, and this is obviously where we can help with private subscriptions. The Board of Social Responsibility has donated £250 from its very slender resources.

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From the Vicar contd....

The Meteorite:

The following letter, from the County Archivist, will serve to conclude what I hope has been found an interesting correspondence on this unusual subject:

'Unfortunately neither the parish registers nor any other records contain any mention of the event. Unfortunately the tithe account book of Dr. Martin Hill, which contains various information in addition to the accounts, was not begun until 1664. I have also searched our microfilm copies of the collections made for the history of Cambridgeshire by the Rev. William Cole, who died in 1782, but without success.

The event occurred when the drainage of the Fens as a whole had been attempted but had not been completed. I doubt whether anyone can say what the condition of Swaffham Prior Fen was at that time, but it is fair to suppose that the ground was softer than now even if not covered with water-though the latter is made likely by the cloud of steam. We have vertical aerial photographic surveys of the area in 1949, 1962 and 1969 and possibly other dates since the war, though probably no obliques. There are a few marks visible in the 1962 photographs which I have examined which might be worth investigation, but I feel that they should be considered by someone more practised in recognising meteorite craters before any ground investigation is made'.

By way of postscript perhaps I should just add, for the benefit of those who have found this correspondence of interest, the fact pointed out to me recently by Mr. John Norris, that the Vicarage in those days was Anglesey House, actually two vicarages in one, since the two priests looking after the two churches and parishes lived there, before their amalgamation in 1667.

J.K.B.

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FROM THE CHURCHES - ST. MARY'S & REACH - WORSHIP IN MARCH

5th LENT IV: Mothering Sunday

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (Reach)
9.30 a.m. Matins & Eucharist (St. Mary's)
6.30 p.m. Evensong (Reach)

12th LENT V: PASSION SUNDAY

9.30 a.m. Parish Communion (St. Mary's)
11.00 a.m. Family Communion (Reach)
6.30 p.m. Evensong (St. Mary's)

19th PALM SUNDAY

9.30 a.m. Parish Communion (St. Mary's)
11.00 a.m. Family Communion (Reach)
6.30 p.m. Evensong (Reach)

23rd MAUNDY THURSDAY

7.30 p.m. Holy Communion (St. Mary's)
8.00 p.m. - 9.00 p.m. Vigil before the Blessed Sacrament.

24th GOOD FRIDAY

10.00 a.m. Matins, Ante-Communion & Sermon (St. Mary's)
2.00-3.00 p.m. Service of Devotion for the Deanery
at Burwell Church.
5.00 p.m. Evensong (St. Mary's)

25th EASTER EVE

6.30 p.m. Evensong (St. Mary's)
7.00 p.m. Confessions
7.30 p.m. Renewal of Baptismal Promises, and Lighting of
the Paschal Fire.

26th EASTER DAY

8.30 a.m. Holy Communion & Hymns (Reach)
10.00 a.m. Parish Communion (St. Mary's)
6.30 p.m. Evensong (St. Mary's)

27th MONDAY in EASTER WEEK

10.00 a.m. Holy Communion (St. Mary's)

28th TUESDAY in EASTER WEEK

7.00 a.m. Holy Communion (St. Mary's)

contd. over....

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TABLE TENNIS CLUB

Since last month we have played three of the stronger clubs in the league and, bearing this in mind, our results were very good.

We lost 7-3 to an unbeaten R.A.F. Lakenheath side and followed this by two very good wins - 6-4 at Beck Row and a 6-4 home win over Soham Baptists side.

Apart from the team results, I am very pleased with the progress that some of the junior players are making and I hope they continue to improve. (I am beginning to worry about my place in the team already).

Colin Fletcher.

RECIPES WELSH CAKES

1 lb. plain flour	6 oz. mixed currants and sultanas
1 tsp. baking powder	$\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. mixed spice or mace (optional)
10 oz. butter	1 egg
6 oz. sugar	a little milk
pinch salt	

----- makes approx. 20

Mix, flour, baking powder and salt

Rub in butter

Add sugar, spice and fruit

Mix in beaten egg and approx. 3 tbsp. milk to make a consistency like short crust pastry.

Roll out and cut into rounds about 3 in. across and $\frac{1}{2}$ in. thick

Cook over medium heat in a very lightly greased pan or on a bakestone for about 3 or 4 mins. each side. (if they brown too quickly lower heat to ensure that they are cooked inside)

Serve hot or cold with butter, sprinkled with sugar, cinnamon, jam or honey.

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Village Centre News

At our January Committee Meeting concern was expressed at the lack of support for live bands at some functions. These Groups are expensive and to cover their charge at least 50 people have to pay at the door.

It seems that in order to make events a success we need, 1) a larger village population and 2) a larger village hall, so after a lengthy discussion we decided to look for a disco that is prepared to play both popular and modern dance music and that also does not have too many flashing lights.

Contact has been made between the Committee and two dancing class teachers and if anyone is interested please contact me. The classes will consist of Modern Dancing and Jive and will be about 20p a session, with the idea of starting in the Autumn.

Reach Fair will be on May 1st and at present the Dog Show will be on Sunday April 30th, the Cycle Race May 21st.

John O. Robinson.

The Pork and Punch Evening held on 28th January was a great success. A roast pork supper with all the trimmings plus a glass or two of punch was enjoyed by all who attended and due to Mr. A. Johnson's kind donation of the pork a profit of £48.26 was made.

The Jumble Sale and Raffle held at Reach Village Centre on 18th February raised £18.05.

Thanks are due to Mrs. Rita Housden for the beautiful Gateaux she made to raffle - this was won by Mr. Derek Harrison.
